

THE CHIRONIAN

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Alumni, Professors and Undergraduates are asked to contribute to our columns. All articles must be signed by the name of the writer. The editors are not responsible for opinions of contributors.

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THE CHIRONIAN will be sent until ordered discontinued.

An Appeal.

AT the delivery of this number, with but one exception, the work of the staff of editors will have been completed for this year.

What is the capacity of this remaining incumbent? Upon inquiring why he remains at post of duty; subscribers ask yourselves this question: Have I been the recipient of that instructive Journal, THE CHIRONIAN for *one*, two or even MORE years, with never an effort on my part to sustain it, by sending my check for its receipt to the Business Manager, who is greatly impeded in his work through the dilatory manner and utter forgetfulness with which the subscribers meet their obligations?

It does appear unnecessary to make an appeal through these columns, which ought to be devoted to technical subjects; but it is evident that of the financial condition of our Journal you are either ignorant or heedless. After

sending out bills to the delinquents several times, the regular form of appeal which ought to be recognized, the Business Manager finally made known the urgent needs for payment by recently enclosing a letter to those in arrears.

Up to the present time but few returns have been made; but if eventually the *frequent* issuing of bills will insure payment, he is willing to send until the sense of honor of our alumni is awakened, and sufficient funds are received to liquidate all debts.

You know a journal of this kind is not self-supporting, and must be dependent on the aid and co-operation of its friends. Could each and every subscriber be reached personally, he would readily be convinced of the necessity for this demand of prompt payment; this, however, is impossible, and in place thereof, you must appeal to yourself, so we may be able to collect the many hundred dollars owing us. I insert this in space which should be occupied by more instructive reading, because it is imperative that we receive money NOW. I sincerely hope that, while you peruse the more interesting articles in this number, you will at least retain and act on the following. Look up our last bill, forward us your check; and thus secure a clear conscience and our receipt.

Very truly Yours,

F. LE C. DOWE, M.D.,
Business Manager.

WE understand that in "taking stock" after the close of lectures, the Librarian discovered that several books—one of considerable value,—had been stolen from the college library. It is ever laudable for an attempt to be made to increase the size and value of a medical library—but not when the books are purloined from one kindly provided for the use of the students here at college.

We can hardly imagine that any one belong-

ing to this institution has been guilty of such despicable meanness, and yet what else can we be compelled to believe. If the disappearance of these books is due to their being taken by some careless student who supposed they belonged to him, the mistake can easily be rectified by looking for the college library stamp which is in every one of the books.

THE past year has been, on the whole, a prosperous one in our college history; new methods have been introduced, and so far as tried, have met with success.

Also, a new building has not only been assured but even now is nearly finished. Consequently, this should be a transition period in our growth; and in leaving the old building, where in cluster so many found memories, to occupy the new and more commodious one which our growth demands we should each and every one, to the best of our ability, make this new edifice, as it should be, an earnest, powerful and influential centre and source of great intellectual and scientific movements—the cynosure of the medical world. But let us understand, whatever may be the heartfelt desire, that it will be just what we help to make it.

Only the highest degree of thoroughness and nobleness of purpose on the part of the students, of ambition and efficiency among the faculty, of enterprise in the management and of liberality from the Alumni and friends, can make our college what every loyal son must long to see his alma mater.

WITH this number the Board of Editors for '88 and '89 bid adieu to THE CHIRONIAN and its readers.

It is with deep regret we lay down the editorial pen, for we feel thereby connection is severed from what has been a pleasure to us, though not by any means an unmixed one. We hope, although the year has been unmarked by any great or striking success, that there has been added another ring of solid growth to our worth and prosperity as a college paper.

We have tried to make our Journal worthy of

the college it represents and do not feel that our labors have been in vain. We have, though perhaps in a rude way, advocated a few reforms and have no doubt that time will see most of them adopted; not, however, because we have suggested them, but because the interests of the College demand that they should not pass unnoticed. What we have done was in the hope of making our Journal of value to its readers, of advancing the interests of our College and of, perhaps, doing something for the name of Homœopathy. If we have fallen short of the high mark that has been our constant aim, we can only ask that our honest efforts may be taken for the deed. If we have succeeded in doing what we have so earnestly striven for, we, as a Board, will feel that our labors have not resulted in a failure, and trust that as we go out to work for a common cause, though perhaps in widely different fields, we may still continue to uphold and increase the glory of our alma mater and the name of Homœopathy—thereby earning, as we trust we may now also deserve, the final verdict, "Well done."

The College Commencement.

ON Thursday afternoon, April 18th, under favoring skies, a large audience assembled at Chickering Hall on the occasion of the twenty-eighth annual commencement of the New York Homœopathic Medical College and Hospital. The hall was well filled, *the opposite sex* being conspicuous in point of numbers. The orchestra dispensed pleasing music while the audience was gathering, the faculty were shaking hands and cracking jokes behind the scenes, and the students forming in line outside the doors, impatiently waiting for the march to start up and the real exercises begin. After a short silence, the band strikes up the march. Eager expectancy is seen on every face, and as the word is given the line starts into the hall and the faculty file in on to the stage, amid the applause of admiring friends. A finer looking set of men than the faculty as they sit smiling down on the class, to say nothing of the class itself, is rarely seen.

After more music and an opening prayer, our honored Dean, Professor Allen, stepped forward and made the introductory address. After speaking briefly of the history of the college during the year, its bright prospects for the future in its new and commodious buildings, its course of instruction and the advantages it offers, he went on to make a strong plea for endowment of chairs of instruction in the college. He showed the great need of such endowment and its great usefulness as compared with the endowment of chairs in classical and theological institutions. In closing, he spoke most hopefully of the future, and made an appeal for the sympathy and practical assistance of the friends of homœopathy in this new stage of progress of the college.

The Hon. Rufus B. Cowing, President of the Board of Trustees, next conferred upon the members of the graduating class the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Proudly did each man, as his name was called, step upon the platform to receive the visible assurance that he had reached the goal of his ambitions and was really an M.D., and as proudly did he step off the platform bearing in his hand the token of new dignity, his fair friends in the audience meanwhile applauding vigorously and thinking how on earth they'll ever call him "Doctor."

After more pleasing music, during which there were mutual congratulations among the new doctors, Professor Dowling awarded the prizes. To many this was the most interesting part of the exercises. The genial professor, in his own humorous and happy manner, worked the expectant students—I mean *doctors*—up to a high pitch of excitement before he finally broke the seal of the first envelope, which contained the name of the man who ranked first in his class. From the aggravating hints of the professor several men who were known to stand high were greatly excited, wondering if possibly—. But finally he breaks the seal, opens the fateful paper, and reads off the name of the first prize man, Frank C. Bunn, of East Orange, N. J., who, amid the plaudits of many friends, carries off the well earned \$100 microscope.

Charles E. Wilcox, by splendid work, had

brought himself to second place in rank in the class, and in the midst of great applause received the second prize, a \$50 microscope. He was but 9-100 of 1 per cent. behind his successful competitor for first prize.

The honor men, all close on the heels of their rivals, were, in order of rank, the following: Caldwell Morrison, A.B.; William F. Honan, Paul Allen, Chauncey E. Low, A.B., and Geo. H. Jenkins.

The Wales prize, for the student standing highest in the Middle Class, a Helmuth pocket case, was awarded to D. A. McMichael, of Toronto, Can., who had attained the extraordinary rank of 99.12 per cent. The men receiving honorable mention for this prize were: C. B. Flint, G. F. Martin, W. J. Flint, E. H. Noble and L. W. Dean. A little music now relieved the nervous tension and prepared us for the next thing on the programme, an address by Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Hastings. The eminent divine, after speaking in a very happy and appreciative manner on the success and future of Homœopathy, mixing in his talk some humorous reminiscences of the heroic doses he had once been compelled to swallow, and making many witty hits which provoked loud applause, addressed the Graduating Class in words full of earnestness, kindly advice and hopeful courage. His address was greatly appreciated and admired, especially by the students themselves.

Following Dr. Hastings' address came the valedictory, delivered by Wm. H. Bennett, M.D., who chose for his subject "The History and Progress of Chemistry and Anatomy." Having spoken at some length on this subject and made some appropriate remarks to the faculty, thanking them for their kindly interest in the students and their faithful performance of duty as lecturers, and to the trustees, reminding them of their privilege and responsibility in connection with the college, he closed with a brief farewell talk to the class.

The benediction being pronounced, the new doctors hastened to receive the congratulations of their many friends, a number of whom were burdened with the floral tokens, gifts to the doctors, that adorned the stage, and some even

carried away in triumph the coveted "sheep-skin."

And so, after a most successful celebration, with the reward of three years' toil assured, the thirty-seven "Doctors of Medicine" went forth into the world to practice their chosen profession. May that profession be honored by its new members and God speed them in their noble work, granting them in life true success, in death victory, here and hereafter eternal reward!

The College Year.

LATELY, a certain college medical paper complained that its men were being graduated without seeing a single obstetrical case.

To see how we stand, a canvass of the graduating class of this college developed the fact that only two students had not seen a case of labor while there was a general average of three cases per man. We doubt if any other medical college can give a better showing.

In regard to other work of the year, we are able to give the following figures through the kindness of "Frank." The whole number of lectures given and clinics held amounts to 938, besides 149 hours of laboratory work in urinalysis and microscopy, conducted by Professors Porter and White. Lack of space forbids a detailed account of the work done by each professor throughout the session, and yet some idea can be obtained of what has been accomplished by perusing the following:

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Valedictory to the Class of '89.

N. H. BENNETT.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

THE subject of medicine opens up a wide field for our consideration. The three branches fundamental to all medical study are chemistry, physiology, and anatomy. Should you ask me the practical advantage of a knowledge of anatomy, I would have no difficulty in impressing you with its importance to the surgeon in his art. Should you ask me to explain the service which physiology renders us I would inform you that we cannot understand the diseased body, much less treat the same till we have thoroughly familiarized ourselves with the body and its functions during health, and for this knowledge we are indebted to physiology.

To the novice in the study of medicine, to the world at large, chemistry, on the other hand, seems to have little practical bearing, to be a mere compilation of theories and facts, of service and interest only to the chemist. For centuries chemistry has been shrouded by a veil of mystery which has made it the most occult of sciences. To-day, however, it wears a different aspect, owing to the wide diffusion of knowledge and an ever increasing demand for a popular chemistry, a chemistry free from mysticism, a chemistry which all may understand in its practical teaching. No longer do chemists, as the

ancient alchemists, shut themselves up in their laboratories to search, like Faust, for the means of transmuting the baser metals into gold, the illusive philosophers stone; but they devote their time and attention to the study of the laws governing chemical changes and their application to the industrial world.

Above us, below us, around us, is the great laboratory of the universe, where, silently and unseen, but wonderfully and mightily does nature, the great chemist, calling to her aid all elements, work those changes which are the wonder of the scientific world. Everywhere there is manifest the result of chemical action, and investigation shows us that whether this chemical action be seen in the animal, in the plant or in the inanimate object, it is one and the same, forming a grand harmonious unity, each working for the other, each dependent upon the other, establishing the relationship between the three great kindoms of matter, the animal, the vegetable and the mineral, for

"All are but parts of one stupendous whole
Whose body nature is, and God the soul."

Gaze upon yonder landscape, your eye beholds the green pasture and the cattle scattered here and there, some cropping the rich grass, others standing beneath the shade of a wide spreading tree by the side of a peacefully flowing brook, silently chew their cud.

This picture illustrates the dependence of the animal kingdom upon the vegetable kingdom.

In time the animal dies, and its bones resolved into their constituent parts by the action of the elements, or as a result of chemical process, return to the soil from which they are derived, and renew its fertility.

From this soil each tiny blade of grass, a living plant chooses those ingredients necessary for its growth, and in turn furnishes food for the animal.

Thus we have completed our circle. The plant derives its food from the soil, the animal feeds upon the plant, and the soil is enriched in turn by the animal, all of which changes may be explained in accordance with chemical laws.

Again, without our knowledge of chemistry

we would be unable to explain many physiological functions. At the very threshold of life we are brought face to face with a chemical change which continues as long as life lasts. With the first breath of the new-born babe air enters its lungs and a chemical process is begun. What is this air and what its function?

From our chemistry we learn that the atmosphere, surrounding as it does the world to the height of forty-five miles, consists principally of oxygen, nitrogen, carbonic oxide and water vapor, of which the most important are the first two. These two elements, oxygen and nitrogen, in the proportion of one to four, are colorless, odorless and tasteless gases, but with this marked difference, oxygen is a supporter of combustion, while nitrogen is a non-supporter of combustion. So active, indeed, is the oxygen in the process of oxidation that it is an all wise provision of nature that it is so intimately commingled with its opposite in character, which retards and regulates its action. The air thus entering the lungs gives up its supply of oxygen to the blood which carries it to the different parts of the body where the oxygen unites with the used up tissues, and in the form of carbon dioxides is returned by the blood to the lungs and there exhaled. Take this supply of oxygen from one and you deprive him of one of the essentials of life. Thus we see how important a part the air we breathe plays in the human economy, and how chemistry enables us to study and understand the same.

The sponge is a fine network of still finer tissues, of a porous nature, and capable of absorbing fluids. If you saturate this sponge with alcohol and set it on fire you will observe that as long as there is an excess of alcohol the alcohol burns and the sponge remains intact, but as soon as the alcohol is consumed the fire also consumes the sponge.

The lamp upon your table giving forth its bright and cheerful light illustrates the same principle. The wick is but a network of delicately woven fibres with countless interstices, and during the process of combustion it acts as a feeder of oil to the flame, and is not itself destroyed.

Man also is but a network of tissues, of various and complicated nature, most marvelously joined and rounded out by the filling in of this network with adipose tissue, giving us the beautiful curves of the body so pleasing to the eye.

But how soon all this may be changed. Stricken down with fever the fire within feeds upon this fat of the body, the beautiful contour is lost, emaciation follows, and unless the fever is checked, the vital tissues of the body are attacked and death follows.

In these illustrations we have examples of the same process, the same chemical change, and as in the first two we learn by experiment that the supply of fuel must equal the demand of the flame, so in our last we see the importance of proper food for the sick to meet the wasting effect of disease. At the present time we are better able to meet this demand owing to the preparation of artificial foods, foods which have been digested outside of the body and made ready for the process of assimilation, calculated to nourish without taxing the strength of the patient. The beef tea, so useless, has been replaced by beef extracts possessing only those ingredients essential as food.

For these valuable aids we are also indebted to the chemist and his investigation and his experiments.

The history of chemistry is itself worth considering. One of the most wonderful and valuable discoveries in chemistry was the part which oxygen takes in the process of combustion or oxidation.

The ancient Egyptians and Persians regarded fire as one of the four elements of which all matter was composed, the other three being earth, air and water. About the middle of the seventeenth century the theory was advanced that fire was due to the liberation of a phlogiston which was found in greater or less quantities in all substances. It remained for Lavoisier, however, the father of modern chemistry, to establish the fact that fire was not the setting free of some element but was the result of a chemical union between the oxygen of the air and the substance burning, the amount of fire being

dependent upon the chemical affinity existing between the two and the conditions under which the union took place, the fire being but the outward manifestation of this union, giving us light and heat.

Thus the practical importance of the study of chemistry manifests itself on every hand, and it has been asserted that the growth of a nation can be measured by its advancement in the chemical industries. Chemistry, indeed, becomes a practical study as well as a theoretical one, but one can no more hope to master or understand its practical application without a thorough knowledge of the theoretical, than one can expect to be a successful practitioner of medicine without understanding both the theoretical and practical in medicine. The veil of mystery no longer enshrouds the great science of chemistry, her doors are open, and she invites you to enter

"That cathedral boundless as our wonder,

Whose quenchless lamps the sun and moon supply,
Whose choir, the winds and waves, whose organ, thunder,

Whose dome, the sky."

To you gentlemen of the board of Trustees we tender our hearty thanks for the opportunity afforded us for obtaining a medical education.

To you honored Dean and gentlemen of the Faculty we are indebted for many acts of kindness as well as for your self-sacrificing labors. With patience have you instructed us and with interest have you marked our progress. By your gentlemanly bearing and your scholarly attainments you have impressed us with two of the prime requisites of the successful physician, and we are proud to have received your instruction. To you the cause of Homœopathy is dear. Your devotion has raised our school to its present standard of excellence, and your zeal has procured for us a new college and hospital. In parting we extend to you these evidences of our sincere gratitude for your efforts in our behalf.

Classmates—To-day we have been received into the great brotherhood of physicians. Our position and standing depend upon our own

labors. We have already received many parting words of advice. We have been told what the qualifications of the physician are, what his duties, and what elements of character are essential to his success.

Above all else the physician should not be dogmatic, and it is dogmatism when men claim as absolutely certain what is at most merely relative truth, and treat with superciliousness all who do not accept their authority as final. Certainly, let us be true to our convictions and hold fast to our theories as the earthen vessels which contain a precious treasure, but let us remember

"Our little systems have their day;
They have their day and cease to be."

Let us be loyal to the cause of Homœopathy, and to the interests of our Alma Mater, and may her honor and reputation ever be sustained by those whom she now bids

"Farewell. A word that hath been and must be,
A sound, that makes us linger, yet, FAREWELL."

The Class of '89.

Paul Allen, New York, N. Y.
Stephen Edward Best, D.D.S., Astoria, L. I.
William Henry Bennett, A.B., Fitchburg, Mass.
Frank Caulkins Bunn, East Orange, N. J.
Horace Bowen, Boston, Mass.
Samuel Ross Capen, East Douglas, Mass.
Herbert A. Church, Canton, N. Y.
John Connell, New York, N. Y.
Edwin J. Curran, Franklin, Pa.
Homer Clark, A.B., New York, N. Y.
Frank Le Count Dowe, New York, N. Y.
Don Carlos Buell Dunlevy, New York, N. Y.
James Alfred Dunn, Titusville, Pa.
Joseph W. Finerty, Milford, N. H.
George De Wayne Hallett, Bridgeport, Conn.
William James Hardy, Belvidere, N. Y.
William Francis Honan, Maysville, Ky.
George A. Hull, D.D.S., New York, N. Y.
George H. Jenkins, Rochester, N. H.
Henry Krogstadt, M.D., St. Paul, Minn.
N. H. Lewis, New York, N. Y.
Chauncey E. Low, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Daniel Luce, New York, N. Y.
Caldwell Morrison, A.B., Orange, N. J.
Walter Sands Mills, New York, N. Y.
Charles Pomeroy Opdyke, Jersey City, N. J.
Edward M. Quackenbush, New York, N. Y.

George Watson Roberts, Ph.B., New York, N. Y.
Frank Eugene Risley, Waterville, N. Y.
John A. Schafmeister, Meriden, Conn.
Friend Miller Schell, D.D.S., Rutland, Vt.
Le Roy B. Sherman, A.M., North Collins, N. Y.
George P. Sword, Thompsonville, Conn.
Edward Gerry Tuttle, A.M., Worcester, Mass.
Henry Van Bergen, Carbondale, Pa.
Charles Edwin Wilcox, Wellsville, N. Y.
Arthur Humphrey Wood, Providence, R. I.

Meeting of the Alumni Association and Banquet at Delmonico's.

THE seventh meeting of the Alumni Association took place on the evening of April 18th, following the commencement exercises at Chickering Hall. And a rousing meeting it was. Professor St. Clair Smith wielded the gavel with Prof. C. McDowell, as Secretary. Ballots for the election of officers for the ensuing year had been prepared beforehand and resulted as follows:

President, J. Lester Keep, '66, of Brooklyn, N. Y.
First Vice-President, Louis B. Couch, '74, of Nyack, N. Y.
Second Vice-President, John L. Moffat, '77, of Brooklyn, N. Y.
Third Vice-President, J. B. Gregg Curtis, '78, of Washington, D. C.
Alumnus Trustee, Everett Hasbrouck, '65, of Brooklyn, N. Y.
Recording Secretary, C. H. Helfrich, '84, 201 East Twenty-third Street, N. Y. City.
Corresponding Secretary, J. B. Garrison, '82, 111 East Seventieth Street, N. Y. city.
Treasurer, E. J. Pratt, '81, of N. Y. city.
Chairman Executive Committee, A. B. Norton, '81, of N. Y. city.

The Executive Committee consists of the following:

S. H. Vehslage, '79, N. Y. city.
C. W. Cornell, '77, " "
C. S. Macy, '81, " "
Charles Deady, '76, " "
J. L. Beyea, '80, " "
Necrologist, H. D. Schenck, '84, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The business part of the meeting being concluded the members divided off in classes, and

with the faculty and trustees entered the large dining-room, where every seat was occupied in short order, although some members had to wait, standing until more room was prepared for them.

The first on the programme was the toast to *Hahnemann*, which was drunk standing and in silence. After a prayer by the Rev. E. C. Bolles, D.D., the toast-master, Frederick J. Nott, '77, in a neat speech, announced Prof. T. F. Allen, our worthy dean, as respondent to *Our Alma Mater*. Everybody present knew what to expect from our dean, and he spoke with his usual clear style and easy manner. He mentioned the tremendous stride forward our college has taken during the last year; of our new building, with a separate hospital almost finished; of the dispensary, which will be in running order by the middle of July; of the fair prospects which the college enjoys, and the high reputation she enjoys among the physicians of the land.

Professor Allen was followed by the Rev. E. C. Bolles, D.D., whose toast, *Theology*, was ably responded to by this eminent divine. *Law* came next in order, and Mr. Theron G. Strong, Esq., of the New York Bar, did ample justice to this subject. Then came the toast on *The Rise and Growth of Surgery in the Homœopathic School*, by our beloved Professor of Surgery, William Tod Helmuth. He spoke of the early homœopathic physicians, who were no surgeons and who had to send their cases to old-school doctors where surgical interference was necessary; mentioned some of the names of surgeons in the new school who stood as high as those of the old, concluding with a poem, which was listened to with the utmost attention and applauded in such a manner as to arouse the fear of the French attendants for the safety of the building.

The toast on *The Board of Trustees* was ably responded to by Judge Rufus B. Cowing, who told some good stories which were highly appreciated by his audience. The toast, *The Older Alumni* was allotted to Frank H. Boynton '74, whose speech we print upon another page and who said he felt surprised when notified by the toast-master that he would have to respond to this toast on account of his extreme youth.

No better man could have been selected to handle the delicate subject, *The Ladies*, than Prof. F. E. Doughty. He said they were like the immortal George W. first in war, first in peace and always first in the hearts of their country men. He was listened to with great attention, principally by the class of '89 who are looking forward to matrimony and an extensive practice. *Medical Journalism* was ably handled, by the former Editor of the *Southern Journal of Homœopathy*, C. E. Fisher, M.D., of Austin, Texas. He spoke of the duties of the physician to the journals of our School of Medicine, the support each member of the profession owes to the editor by giving his experience and result of investigation to the journals so that all may derive benefit from and be instructed by men whose authority upon medical subjects is acknowledged. He also complimented THE CHIRONIAN upon the manner in which it was conducted and predicted a bright future for the Journal and the College.

The last toast, on *The Class of '89* was ably responded to by Chauncey E. Low, '89, who reviewed the work done by the class in the three years of attendance at Lectures in the College and who was sure that the professors tried their best to pump more knowledge into their poor brains than they could hold.

We would be guilty of neglect should we omit to mention the Glee Club of the College under the efficient leadership of J. H. Bryan, '90. The intervals between speeches were enlivened by college songs of ye olden time as well as by the new ones, such as *Mary had a little lamb, etc.*

Take it all in all this was the best attended meeting ever held and everyone upon its conclusion felt like wishing for another soon to take place.

F. D

CLIENT (to lawyer): "I am afraid the physician's evidence will convict me."

LAWYER (reassuringly): "Don't be alarmed about that. I'll read up a little about poison in the stomach, and in ten minutes I'll have that doctor in a cold sweat and make the judge and jury think he is a hired perjurer."—*Clinical Reporter.*

Response to Toast: "Our Old Alumni," at the Banquet at Delmonico's.

F. H. BOYNTON, '74.

IF there is ever a time one could wish for the power to make a speech, it is when he is called upon for one. As these occasions, in my own case, are few and rare, I am often spared this great embarrassment, though it is not less keenly felt. Especially could I desire to speak in fitting language when asked to respond for the older alumni at this reunion of the graduates of our alma mater.

I have to say but a few words, Mr. President, for a speech is very much like the red pepper of tropical countries—a very little of it at a dinner goes a great way.

I am asked to respond to the "older alumni." How fitly this subject is assigned to me others may appreciate better than I. My dark and abundant hair does not suggest it, and why my evident signs of youth should be taken for marks of age I cannot understand—and yet within a week a patient at the hospital, in trying to indicate which doctor he wanted, said: "I mean the old one."

It falls to one of the older alumni at stated intervals to reveal to his younger brethren the real secret of their sitting in a doctor's chair. Doubtless most of you thought that the physician's life was a matter of your own choosing, and that in many cases great opposition had to be overcome to gain the desired end. Yet this only shows how little we know of those other forces at work to shape and mould our destiny. It is said that a certain man had three sons, all born under evil stars, which seemed to predict that they would be in succession a beggar, a thief and a murderer. He was told that he could rescue them from their evil destiny only by turning the evil auguries into good omens and putting their vicious propensities to pious uses. And so it turned out that he who was destined to become only a beggar ended his life as a renowned and revered divine; and he who

would have been nothing but a thief became the most celebrated lawyer of his day; and the evil genius of the murderer saved him, because by the regulated indulgence of his taste for cutting and slashing he became the most distinguished surgeon of his generation. This, so far as it applies to the physician, is the cheering revelation I have to make to you to-night. Except for the kind offices of some good genius that turned the drift of those evil propensities, we might all have become victims for the gallows or the electric chair, instead of winning laurels in a useful and noble profession.

In 1810 the foundation of the faith that is in us was laid by the publication of the "Organon" by Hahnemann. His followers did not expect to conquer the whole world by the mere writings of the master, but rather, that victory must be won by hard fighting and by adherence to the principles laid down in the "Organon."

Our college was established in 1860, and in the twenty-eight years of its existence has graduated 1,143 men. Most of these are doing good work for the cause, some have deserted the ranks, and others have been called to, and are now,—let us hope,—enjoying a richly deserved rest.

As we look over the names of those early in the field we are reminded that they practiced the faith as taught in the "Organon"; that they believed firmly in the law Similia and dared maintain it.

So wide a departure from the established school, so gross a heresy, as they chose to term it, called for criticism, opposition and persecution; but all this made strong men, men whose life-work is proof of their belief in the principle they professed.

They were a small handful to conquer this new world of unbelief, but they worked to establish, to build for the future a structure not to be easily pulled down, and we of to-day are enjoying the fruit of their labors. We step in and take possession of conquered territory and of a principle and law established by long use.

But what have we done toward advancing the cause? Within my own recollection there has

come a period during which the prosperity of the system had become so great and its followers had obtained lucrative practices so readily that it only seemed necessary—together with good bedside manners—to announce one's self a disciple of Hahnemann to quickly surround one with a good clientage. This rapid road to prosperity took away, unfortunately, much of the stimulus to study. In recent years, however, the increasing number of our graduates and the consequent filling up of the ranks, together with increased opposition and an earnest effort to elevate the standard of medical education, has resulted in the development of a class of men than which none are superior.

To the faculty of instruction of our college all honor and praise are due, for the self-sacrificing conscientious work they have performed. From a feeble beginning our college has become strong and a power in the land, and we of the older alumni join heartily with the younger in sustaining their hands and seconding their efforts in behalf of the cause.

By reason of our being alike sons of one mother and members of one profession, we share together common interests, common hopes and common responsibilities. To us it is given to meet the responsibility of caring for human lives placed in our hands; to sustain the reputation of the craft against an ungrateful and caviling world; to spur each other on to new discoveries and new triumphs in the science of medicine; to foster a spirit of loyalty to our alma mater—which was truly a cherishing mother when she took us as weaklings and nourished us to the full strength of manhood and self-help.

What she did for us she is still doing for others who follow in our train. Let us stand by her in our words and our contributions; let us increase her renown by our own achievements; let us, like noble elder offspring, extend the hand of welcome and assistance to her younger children.

All this and nothing less should be expected of us, the older alumni of the New York Homœopathic Medical College.

Commencement Exercises at the Ophthalmic Hospital and College.

THE thirty-seventh annual commencement and reception of the New York Ophthalmic Hospital and College was held on April 9th in the clinic-room of the Hospital. A large attendance greeted the President, Thomas C. Smith, who, after a prayer by the Rev. W. H. Benjamin, delivered the opening address. He was followed by N. L. McBride, M.D., the President of the Hospital College Faculty.

The Diplomas were awarded to the following: Frederick G. Ritchie, '82; George W. McDowell, '85; W. W. Speakman, Hahnemann College, Philadelphia, '87; Frederick L. Clark, Boston University, '88; J. H. McLellan, '77; Edward T. St. John, Boston University, '88.

Certificates in Laryngology were awarded to the following: George R. Bowen, '87; William H. Connelly, '85; J. B. Garrison, '82; William E. McCune, '85. The exercises concluded with a collation, and a dance until 12 o'clock.

Societies.

The Women's Guild of the New York Homœopathic Free Hos- pital and Medical College.

THIS Association was formed in December, 1888, for the purpose of aiding in the maintenance of the above named institution.

Its purpose is to raise funds by subscription, and annual dues, with which to assist the trustees and faculty in their aim of making this a Free Hospital, and caring for the sick poor.

Besides this financial aid, the ladies of the Guild propose to do such active work, under its several officers, and chairman, as may be deemed advisable by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

The Hospital buildings are situated on the Eastern Boulevard, on 63d and 64th streets.

The property embraces sixteen city lots, and was purchased at a cost of \$112,000; nearly all of which sum was donated by well known gentlemen, among whose names are those of Mr. David Dows, Mr. John D. Rockefeller and Mr. Roswell P. Flower.

The corner stones were laid last October, with appropriate ceremonies, and addresses by Mayor Hewitt and others; in the presence of a large assemblage of representative citizens.

The buildings are now nearing completion, and it is expected that the Hospital will be opened to patients during the coming Summer or early Autumn, and the work of purchasing for them is being actively carried on by the Guild.

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EXTRACTS FROM BY-LAWS OF WOMEN'S GUILD.

Article II.—Membership.

There shall be three classes of members, viz: *Active, Associate and Life members.*

Any woman may become an active member, by a vote of the majority of the Committee on membership, confirmed by the Executive Committee.

She must be proposed by a member, and her full name and address be presented in writing to the chairman of the Committee on Membership, signed by the member proposing her.

Active members shall have the right to vote and hold office, and shall each pay to the Treasurer annually, in advance, a sum not less than five dollars. It shall be the duty of active members to extend the work of the Guild by enlarging its membership and increasing the funds. An active member shall be eligible to serve on one, and not more than two committees.

Active members may also be Life members.

Any woman who takes an interest in the objects of the Association, but is unable to engage in its active work, may become an *Associate* member; and her full name and address must be presented in writing to the Chairman of the Committee on membership, signed by the member proposing her. Associate members shall pay an annual subscription of not less than ten dollars and shall be invited to the meetings of the Guild, but shall not be entitled to vote.

Life members may be constituted by a donation of one hundred dollars at any one time.

All officers are elected annually by ballot.

Annual subscriptions of not less than three dollars will be received from those who may not wish to become members, yet desire to aid in the work of the Guild.

The Corresponding Secretary will be glad to learn the names of those who desire to be proposed for membership, and also to receive donations or subscriptions.

Society for Medico-Scientific Investigation.

THE New York Society for Medico-Scientific Investigation held another of its enjoyable meetings in the large clinic-room of the New York Ophthalmic Hospital, on Tuesday evening, May 7th. Those present were treated to papers by Prof. J. W. Dowling, Sr., on "The Diagnosis," and by Prof. T. F. Allen on "The Prescription."

Dr. Dowling showed the importance of first making a diagnosis when called to a patient, and detailed some of the methods used to determine the condition of the vital organs. He spoke of the necessity for using great care and advised the physician to write his diagnosis and prognosis plainly upon paper and give it to the patients, as they often mixed medical terms, and were liable, at a future time, perhaps, to claim to have had something entirely different, and to state a prognosis which had not been intended, to the professional injury of the examiner. They often visit experts without the knowledge of the physician and may make inconsistent statements.

Dr. Allen spoke of the disposition in by-gone times of many physicians to under-rate the value of a diagnosis and treat entirely by the symptoms, subjective and objective, something not now done by the members of our school as a rule, and said that while he believed the most successful homœopathic treatment would be that based upon symptoms, he thought that a proper diagnosis was a necessity for the intelligent treatment of many diseases, especially the so-called zymotic. Treat your symptoms seemed to be his motto. The doctor made a few remarks about the tendency to specialties, and gave his opinion that therapeutics could hardly be made one, as it necessarily embraced so many others. He thought the physician of the future, however, would be the good all-round physician.

Dr. McMurray arose and expressed his delight and satisfaction in having listened to the most excellent papers. He was sorry more of the profession were not present to hear the words of wisdom. Thought diagnosis or pathology and symptomatology were two things apart in the practice, but that both were necessary in combination to attain success. The cause of symptoms must be inquired into as they often deceive the practitioner who does not recognize the cause. Was reminded of a case which came under his own observation, of a boy who fell from a wall while a plum-stone was in his mouth, the subsequent trouble in his lung would not be acknowledged by the attending

doctors as having been caused by a plum-stone, though the boy all the time insisted it was, until the offender was coughed up. Thought no class of diseases more deceiving than those of the heart and lungs. Dr. David McClellan made a few remarks, citing cases showing the advantage of a correct diagnosis.

Dr. A. B. Norton moved a vote of thanks to Drs. Dowling and Allen which was unanimously given. On motion, President Dedy declared the meeting adjourned.

Hahnemannian Society Commencement.

THE seventeenth annual commencement exercises of this Society were held on the evening of April 17th, in Association Hall, and if good attendance and generous appreciation count for aught, they were an entire success. The address of E. G. Tuttle, President of the Society, was brief, but pointed and interesting. The class poem by W. S. Mills met the approval of all. G. W. Roberts, in his prophecy, catered delightfully to the tastes and desires of his class. Doubtless time will reveal the truth of his predictions. The address of the evening was delivered by Prof. Pemberton Dudley, of Philadelphia. He managed to combine the matter of his address in a way that made it both interesting and instructive, and was listened to with marked attention. The degrees of the Society were conferred upon the members by the President. C. B. Flint did credit to the Class of '90 by his admirable and well-delivered "send-off." The music of the evening, interspersed among the numbers on the programme, was a marked feature and lent a pleasing variety to the programme. Besides the numbers by the Glee Club, which were rendered in a manner to reflect much credit upon the leader, J. H. Bryan, there was an opening voluntary for the organ, by C. Rex Baker; trio, for organ, piano and violin, by Messrs. Sayre, Baker and Lightfoot; violin solos by Mr. Lightfoot, and vocal solo by Mr. Bryan. Mr. Baker played all the accompaniments.

'89's Class Supper.

FRIDAY evening, April 5th, found the Senior Class assembled at its third annual class supper. Nearly every man was present. Button-hole bouquets were sent to the class, by one of its members, as a token of remembrance from a former classmate, J. Beecher White. Supper, which was served at eight o'clock, was followed by the speeches. C. P. Opdyke officiated as toast master of the evening, calling upon the men to respond to the following toasts:

Class of '89.....J. Connell.
 The Faculty.....J. W. Finnerty.
 Western Homœopathy.....H. Krogstad.
 Homœopathy in New York.....C. E. Low.
 The Regulars (?).....W. F. Honan.
 Our Dentists.....F. M. Schell.
 The "Bugbear".....D. C. Dunlevy.
 '89 in Practice.....C. T. Mitchell.
 The Farewell.....G. P. Sword.

Just before separating a meeting of the class was called by Vice-President C. P. Opdyke, in the absence of President C. E. Wilcox, to elect a permanent secretary; E. G. Tuttle being unanimously chosen to fill that office. Thus ended the last and most enjoyable gathering of the Class of '89. The First Class supper was held at Clark's of Twenty-third Street; the Second at Riccadanna's, of Union Square, and the Third at Clark's.

Our Library.

THIS closing number of Volume V would be incomplete without some mention of this important adjunct to our college. As most of our readers know, through previous items in this Journal, our library is still young, but we are glad to be able to report that it has had a healthy growth. But much remains to be done before it becomes all that is required for a library of reference and study. Started less than five years ago by the students, it now numbers about six hundred and fifty valuable works. The Faculty and Alumni have contributed generously, but there are many yet to be heard from, and to them this article is meant as an appeal.

Year by year the demands upon the medical man become more exacting, and it is well understood that the average medical student is entirely incapable of supplying himself with the books necessary for full reference upon the varied questions with which he has to cope. To meet this difficulty is the ambition of the Library Committee.

The students who have had charge of the work of building up the library in its first years have worked ardently and well. The committee who are to carry on the work next year have inherited a full share of enthusiasm. If intentions count for anything, the close of another year will see 1,000 volumes on our shelves. Alumni, friends of homœopathy, physicians or laymen, we need money and books. Rest assured that all donations will be put to the best use possible. Any information about our wants or our aims will be gladly furnished, and donations thankfully received and acknowledged by G. F. Martin for the committee. Address care of the college.

IN MEMORIAM

AGAIN THE CHIRONIAN is called upon to announce to its readers the too early departure from this life of one of the prominent members of the class of '85, William E. McCune. He was born at Delhi, N.Y., in 1861, and died in Brooklyn on April 12th. His education began at the Adelphi Academy of Brooklyn, where he, with others, started a school journal, the *Adelphian*, which is now in a flourishing condition. For two years he was President of the Adelphi Alumni Association. He entered our college, where he graduated after a three years' course. During his senior year he filled the arduous position of business manager of THE CHIRONIAN, where he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of his co-editors and classmates. Upon his graduation he was appointed resident physician to the Brooklyn Homœopathic Hospital, where he remained two years, when he was elected secretary and attending physician to the Hospital Dispensary. Being very active

in Plymouth Church of Brooklyn, he accepted the secretaryship of its Sunday School and also that of the Plymouth League, became assistant clerk of the Church and editor of the *Plymouth Chimes*. During the last winter he attended the clinics of the Ophthalmic Hospital, and was awarded the certificate of attendance at the last reception held at the hospital, on April 9th. He was well prepared to fill a prominent position in the profession of Brooklyn when he was called away to rest forever. Of a genial disposition, he leaves many friends behind him who mourn his too early departure. F. D.

College Notes.

INNOCENCE abroad. Junior to middle man: "Do you think the Seniors cribbed any this year?"

Middle man: "No. Not at all, they do not know how."

WITH the expiration of this volume THE CHIRONIAN and *North American Journal of Homoeopathy* are no longer to be had at the club rate of four dollars; but the full subscription price will be charged for each one separately.

PROFESSOR BLACKMAN, who has for many years been an able assistant to Professor Doughty, has been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the latter's resignation, and C. A. Law, M.D., '89, will succeed Professor Blackman.

MARRIED.—Jonathan H. Allen, '88, to Miss Minnie L. Newberry, on Thursday, April 18th, and J. T. W. Kastendieck to Mrs. Anna Coventry on April 29th. The best wishes are extended by THE CHIRONIAN to the happy couples, and hopes are entertained that the whole Class of '88 will soon follow the good example set by these two illustrious members.

It is with a feeling of regret that we have to announce to our older alumni that Professor Doughty has resigned the chair of anatomy. For several years the not very pleasant atmo-

sphere of the dissecting room has been inducive to ill health; sore throat being one of his first affections. Professor Doughty's lectures on the arteries, nerves, the brain, and especially the generally conceded "bugbear" of anatomy, the cranial nerves will long be remembered by his students as one of the most interesting as well as instructive course of lectures of college life. The anatomy hour instead of being looked forward to with dread and fear by the students became, under his subtle mastership, one of actual pleasure and recreation to all whose good fortune it was to hear them, for in addition to his almost perfect knowledge of anatomy Professor Doughty ranks as one of our very best surgeons, and in the course of his lectures gave many "points" of much value and interest to the medical student. Again we express our deep regret at his present illness, and sincerely trust that the rest so well merited and now at hand will prove of inestimable value in restoring him to perfect health. And that in October next the Class of '90 shall have the pleasure of giving him a hearty greeting as he steps forward to deliver his opening address on genito-urinary troubles. A subject on which his knowledge is profound.

Book Notice.

The American Armamentarium Chirurgicum, George Tieman & Co., 107 Park Row, New York. This is a new and greatly enlarged illustrated catalogue with ninety-two pages of carefully prepared Index and Price List.

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